

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A tabletted chewing gum sweet comprising at least two integral parts, a first integral part comprising a compressed mixture of particulated gum base material and separate particulated tablet base material, and a second integral part comprising a compressed particulated tablet base material, the integral parts are arranged as two or more layers arranged one of (1) side by side, (2) with one integral part inlaid in another integral part, and (3) with one integral part completely enclosed within one or more other integral parts.

2. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, further comprising at least one additional integral part made of one of (1) the same material as the first and second integral parts and (2) a different material to the first and second integral parts.

3. (canceled).

4. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the integral parts are arranged as layers, in which the individual layers are one of the same and different thicknesses.

5. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the first and second integral parts are formed as two layers, wherein either layer is thicker than the other.

6. (original): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 5 wherein the ratio of thicknesses is from 0.1:1 to 10:1.

7. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 5, wherein the first integral part is thicker than the second integral part in a ratio of from 1.5:1 to 10:1.

8. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the tablet base material for both the first and second integral parts is based on a polyol.

9. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the gum base is a one of a plasticised rubber and polymer which has added texturisers, anti-tacking agents and antioxidants.

10. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the tablet base for both the first and second integral parts is one of sucrose, fructose, lactose, dextrose, sorbitol, mannitol, maltitol, xylitol, isomalt, glucose syrup, maltitol syrup and erythritol.

11. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the particle sizes of the gum base and the tablet base materials of both the first and second integral parts range from 10 microns to 2 mm.

12. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein in the first integral part, the gum base is present in an amount of from 5% to 99%.

13. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of the first and second integral parts is from 1.5:1 to 10:1.

14. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, further comprising at least one of a binder, a lubricant, a flavour and a colour.

15. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the first and second integral parts have different colours.

16. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, said gum sweet having a textural contrast when broken in the mouth of an initial crunchy and then a chewy sensation.

17. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, further comprising an active ingredient.

18. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 17 wherein the active ingredient is present in the second part.

19. (currently amended): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 18 wherein the active ingredient is a pharmaceutical, medicated, nutritive or functional ingredient, ~~a dental vehicle~~ or a breath freshener.

20. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of a tabletted chewing gum sweet in a configuration of two layers, the process comprising the following steps:

forming a first integral part of particulated gum base material and separate particulated tablet base material by mixing a particulated gum base material with a particulated tablet base material;

forming a second integral part comprising a particulated tablet base material;

feeding one of the integral parts into a tablet press and compressing;

feeding the other integral part into the tablet press and compressing both integral parts in the tablet press to enable the materials of each integral part to bind together and form a tabletted chewing gum sweet having the two integral parts joined together; and

ejecting the tabletted chewing gum sweet.

21. (previously presented): A process according to claim 20 wherein the first integral part is fed into the tablet press before the second integral part to give the tabletted chewing gum sweet.

22. (previously presented): A process according to claim 20 wherein one or more further integral parts which are made of the same material as the first and second integral parts or of a different material to the first and second integral parts are fed into the tablet press and compressed to form a product with three or more layers.

23. (previously presented): A process for the preparation of a tabletted chewing gum sweet as claimed in claim 1 in a configuration of one of the integral parts inlaid in another of the integral parts which comprises the following steps:

feeding one of the integral parts into a tablet press and compressing into a shape having an indentation;

feeding the other integral part into the indentation and compressing both integral parts in the tablet press to enable the materials of each integral part to bind together and form a tabletted chewing gum sweet having the two integral parts joined together; and

ejecting the tabletted chewing gum sweet.

24. (previously presented): A process according to claim 23, wherein a further integral part is fed into the tablet press and compressed to cover and enclose the compressed integral part in the indentation.

25. (currently amended): A tabletted chewing gum sweet comprising at least two integral parts of which a first integral part comprises a compressed mixture of particulated gum base material and separate particulated tablet base material, and a second integral part comprises compressed particulated tablet base material, said at least two integral parts being arranged as layers on top of one another.

26. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 25, wherein the tablet base material used for the first integral part of the tabletted chewing gum sweet contains one of a sugar and a polyol.

27. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 26, wherein said one of a sugar and polyol is selected from the group consisting of sucrose, fructose, lactose, dextrose, sorbitol, mannitol, maltitol, xylitol, isomalt, glucose syrup, maltitol syrup or erythritol.

28. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 25, wherein the tablet base material used for said second integral part of the tabletted chewing gum sweet contains one of a sugar and a polyol.

29. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 28, wherein said one of a sugar and polyol is selected from the group consisting of sucrose, fructose,

lactose, dextrose, sorbitol, mannitol, maltitol, xylitol, isomalt, glucose syrup, maltitol syrup or erythritol.

30. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 25, wherein said first integral part of the tabletted chewing gum sweet the gum base is present in an amount of from 5% to 99% by weight.

31. (canceled).

32. (currently amended): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 25, wherein in said first integral part of the tabletted chewing gum sweet the gum base is present in an amount of from 10% to 50% ~~to 99%~~ by weight.

33. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 25, wherein the two integral parts are arranged as layers.

34. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 33, wherein the individual layers are of the same thickness.

35. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 33, wherein one of said layers is thicker than the other, the ratio of thicknesses of said layers being in the range from 0.1:1 to 10:1.

36. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 33, wherein the one layer has a colour different to the colour of the other layer.

37. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 25, wherein said first integral part has a colour different to the colour of said second integral part.

38. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 25, wherein said gum base material and said tablet base material are of particulate materials having particle sizes in the range from 10 microns to 2 mm.

39. (currently amended): A tabletted chewing gum sweet having ~~several~~ layers, of which ~~layers~~ at least one layer comprises a compressed mixture of particulated gum base material and separated particulated tablet base material and at least another layer comprises compressed tablet base material, said one layer having a colour different to the colour of said another layer.

40. (currently amended): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 39, wherein said ~~several~~ layers are arranged on top of one another.

41. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 39, wherein the individual layers are of the same thickness.

42. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 39, wherein one of said layers is thicker than the other, the ratio of thicknesses of said layers being in the range from 0.1:1 to 10:1.

43. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 39, wherein said one layer further comprises a tablet base material.

44. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 39, wherein in said one layer the gum base is present in an amount of from 30% to 99% by weight.

45. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 39, wherein said gum base material and said tablet base material are of particulate materials having particle sizes in the range from 10 microns to 2 mm.

46. (currently amended): A tabletted chewing gum sweet having layers, of which layers at least one layer comprises compressed particulated gum material and separated particulated tablet base material and at least another layer comprises compressed particulated tablet base material, the particle sizes of said particulated gum base material and of said particulated tablet base material being in the range from 10 microns to 2 mm, and wherein the gum material includes a gum base in the form of one of a plasticized rubber and polymer and has added texturisers, anti-tacking agents and antioxidants.

47. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 46, wherein said several layers are arranged on top of one another.

48. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 46, wherein the individual layers are of the same thickness.

49. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 46, wherein one of said layers is thicker than the other, the ratio of thicknesses of said layers being in the range from 0.1:1 to 10:1.

50. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 46, wherein said one layer further comprises a tablet base material.

51. (currently amended): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 46, wherein in said one layer the gum base is present in an amount of from 5% ~~30%~~ to 99% by weight.

52. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 46, wherein said one layer has a colour different to the colour of said another layer.

53. (currently amended): A chewing gum tablet having at least two layers of compressed particulated materials arranged with the layers on top of one another, at least one of said layers comprising gum material, and at least another of said layers having a colour different to the

colour of said one of said layers, ~~and~~ wherein the gum material includes a gum base in the form of one of a plasticized rubber and polymer and has added texturisers, anti-tacking agents and antioxidants, and wherein the different colours of the layers provide contrasting effects to give a distinctive visual indication of said at least two layers.

54. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53, wherein the particle sizes of said particulated materials are in the range from 10 microns to 2 mm.

55. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53, wherein the individual layers are of the same thickness.

56. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53, wherein one of said layers is thicker than the other, the ratio of thicknesses of said layers being in the range from 0.1:1 to 10:1.

57. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53, wherein in said one layer the gum base is present in an amount of from 5% to 99% by weight.

58. (currently amended): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53, wherein in said one layer the gum base is present in an amount of from 10% to 50% ~~30% to 99%~~ by weight.

59. (currently amended): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53, wherein in said one layer the gum base is present in an amount of from 20% to 30% ~~50% to 99%~~ by weight.

60. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53 and consisting of two layers.

61. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53 and containing a pharmaceutical ingredient.

62. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53 and containing a medicated ingredient.

63. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53 and containing a nutritive ingredient.

64. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53 and containing a functional ingredient.

65. (currently amended): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53 and containing casein glycol-macro-peptide ~~a dental vehicle~~.

66. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53 and containing a breath freshener.

67. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53, wherein said one layer further comprises a tablet base material containing one of a sugar and a polyol.

68. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 67, wherein said one of a sugar and polyol is selected from the group consisting of sucrose, fructose, lactose, dextrose, sorbitol, mannitol, maltitol, xylitol, isomalt, glucose syrup, maltitol syrup or erythritol.

69. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 53, wherein said another layer comprises a tablet base material containing one of a sugar and a polyol.

70. (previously presented): A chewing gum tablet according to claim 69, wherein said one of a sugar and polyol is selected from the group consisting of sucrose, fructose, lactose, dextrose, sorbitol, mannitol, maltitol, xylitol, isomalt, glucose syrup, maltitol syrup or erythritol.

71. (previously presented): A tabletted chewing gum sweet according to claim 1, wherein the tablet base material for both the first and second integral parts is based on a sugar.